



ENGINEERS
AUSTRALIA

RTSA

Railway Technical Society of Australasia
Queensland Chapter

Technical Presentation

"Celebrating 10 years 1998-2008"

HUMAN FACTORS – SPADS & LEVEL CROSSINGS

AND AN UPDATE ON CURRENT ATSB LEVEL CROSSING INVESTIGATIONS

Larry Matters

This presentation will cover two issues that are both topical and critical to the safe operation of the rail network.

The Errors That Lie Behind Signals Passed At Danger (SPADs).

The presentation will examine the link between slips and lapses on the part of the driver and distractions that can, and do, occur in everyday life.

Research has shown that the proliferation of communication mediums that 'invade' nearly all aspects of life nowadays, not the least of all being mobile phones, have the very real potential to distract an operator of machinery, sometimes with terrible consequences. The presentation will draw on this research and the identified performance decrement of the operator.

Although the bulk of this research has been conducted in the road sphere, the question posed will be – 'why would the identified dangers of mobile phone usage by motorists be any different for train drivers?'

Level Crossings Investigations

The presentation will also provide a summary of recent interstate level crossing investigations that have been conducted by the ATSB. It is well known that mistakes, slips and lapses and even violations are causal factors in level crossing accidents, thus linking the two subjects of SPAD's and level crossing accidents covered in the presentation.

The presenter, Larry Matters, is a Senior Transport Safety Investigator with the ATSB. Larry has 36 years experience in the rail industry including 20 years with QR, 10 years with National Rail/Pacific National, and 6 years with the ATSB. During this time he has gained considerable knowledge in operational, industrial, managerial and accident investigation facets of the rail industry. Larry is a qualified locomotive driver and holds a Diploma of Management with Deakin University and a Diploma of Transport Safety Investigation with the ATSB.

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Where

Hawken Auditorium
Engineers House
Upper Edward St,
Spring Hill

When

Wednesday 25th March
5:30pm for
6:00pm Presentation

Registration

Contact; Lauren Moon
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Please invite a colleague who may be interested – Guests are always welcome at RTSA presentations.

The RTSA is a technical society of EA, find out more about the society at www.rtsa.com.au

For further information contact RTSA Qld Chapter Chair Alex Howie

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